

Message Text

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

PAGE 01 CARACA 05590 171252Z
ACTION ARA-14

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-05 H-01
INR-10 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 SP-02 SS-15
ICA-11 /080 W
-----119501 172356Z /66

R 162142Z JUN 78
FM AMEMBASSY CARACAS
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 2709
INFO AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE CARACAS 5590

E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: PEPR PDIP UR VE
SUBJECT: VENEZUELAN AMBASSADOR TO MOSCOW RETURNS HOME

1. VENEZUELAN AMBASSADOR TO THE SOVIET UNION, EGULO BURELLI RIVAS, HASTILY RETURNED TO CARACAS IN EARLY JUNE AMID RUMORS OF A SERIOUS RIFT BETWEEN THE TWO GOVERNMENTS. SENATIONALIST DAILY EL MUNDO HEADLINED A STORY ALLEGING SOVIET SNOOPING INTO VENEZUELAN DIPLOMATIC POUCHES, SUGGESTING THE GOV HAD RECALLED BURELLI AND WAS CONSIDERING BREAKING RELATIONS WITH THE SOVIETS. ANOTHER, MORE RESPONSIBLE, PAPER REPORTED THAT BURELLI'S RECALL WAS DUE TO UNELABORATED SOVIET CHARGES OF HIS "UNDIPLOMATIC CONDUCT." IN THE MIDST OF ALL THIS FLAP, SOVIET AMBASSADOR TO VENEZUELA, VLADIMIR KAZIMIROV, IS OUT OF TOWN ON LEAVE, ADDING FUEL TO SPECULATION OF MUTUAL FROSTINESS.

2. FOREIGN MINISTER CONSAVLI HAS LABELLED THE EL MUNDO STORY AS "UNFOUNDED" AND A "LIE." TWO FOREIGN MINISTRY OFFICIALS HAVE TOLD US THAT BURELLI WAS OVERDUE FOR TRANSFER AFTER EIGHT YEARS IN MOSCOW, AND THAT THE RECALL WAS EXTRAORDINARY ONLY BECAUSE OF ITS SPEED. THE FOREIGN MINISTER AND PRESIDENT PEREZ HAVE BOTH STRESSED PUBLICLY
LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

PAGE 02 CARACA 05590 171252Z

THAT THE RECALL WAS NORMAL. FURTHER, THE SOVIET AMBASSADOR TAKES LEAVE EVERY SUMMER. FINALLY, ONE NEWSPAPER COLUMN ON JUNE 16 STATES BURELLI WILL BE SENT AS AMBASSADOR TO THE PRC.

3. COMMENT: DESPITE THE DENIALS, IT IS A FACT THAT THE SOVIET EMBASSY COMPLAINED TO THE FOREIGN MINISTRY ABOUT

BURELLI. DIFFERENT SOURCES CITE AS MANY REASONS FOR THE COMPLAINT, E.G., BAD PEREZ-BREZHNEV MEETING DURING PEREZ' VISIT TO MOSCOW AND BURELLI'S CRITICISM OF THE SOVIET SYSTEM (AP-MOSCOW); BURELLI KNOWS TOO MANY DISSIDENTS; BURELLI DRINKS TOO MUCH; ALSO, BURELLI WAS THE DEAN OF THE LATIN DIPLOMATIC CORPS IN MOSCOW, AND IN THE NAME OF THE LATINS, PROTESTED VIGOROUSLY AGAINST RECENT RENT HIKES AFFECTING ALL OR PART OF THE DIPLOMATIC COMMUNITY. WHATEVER THE REASON FOR REMOVING BURELLI SO FAST, VENEZUELA IS HARDLY ABOUT TO BREAK RELATIONS WITH THE SOVIETS. RELATIONS MAY BE STRAINED A BIT, BUT THE GOV IS GOING TO HANDLE THIS ONE RATIONALLY, A RECOGNITION OF REALPOLITIK IN DEALING WITH A SUPER-POWER.
VAKY

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 jan 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: AMBASSADORS, DIPLOMATIC PERSONNEL RECALL
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 16 jun 1978
Decaption Date: 01 jan 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 20 Mar 2014
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1978CARACA05590
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Expiration:
Film Number: D780254-0577
Format: TEL
From: CARACAS
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1978/newtext/t19780652/aaaabskf.tel
Line Count: 76
Litigation Code IDs:
Litigation Codes:
Litigation History:
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Message ID: 3e29e287-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Office: ACTION ARA
Original Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: n/a
Retention: 0
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 05 may 2005
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review Media Identifier:
Review Release Date: N/A
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
SAS ID: 2326637
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: VENEZUELAN AMBASSADOR TO MOSCOW RETURNS HOME
TAGS: PEPR, PDIP, UR, VE, (BURELLI RIVAS, EGULO)
To: STATE
Type: TE
vdkgvwkey: odbc://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/3e29e287-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Review Markings:
Sheryl P. Walter
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
20 Mar 2014
Markings: Sheryl P. Walter Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 20 Mar 2014